

Message Text

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15

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-05 /017 W
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R 171730Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7089

INFO USERDA GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS IAEA VIENNA 1215

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, APER, IAEA, TECH

SUBJECT: IAEA STAFFING (ROBERT FITTS)

REF: (A) IAEA VIENNA 1158, (B) AMMONS/GABBERT TWX 101948Z
FEB 76.

1. MISSION HAS LEARNED THAT ROBERT FITTS, U.S.
NATIONAL CURRENTLY SERVING IN AGENCY'S DIVISION OF
NUCLEAR POWER AND REACTORS, MUST RETURN TO U.S.
(ORNL) ASAP IN VIEW ILLNESS OF HIS SON. FITTS PLANS
TO DEPART MID OR LATE MARCH.

2. FITTS HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN TWO IMPORTANT AGENCY
ACTIVITIES, (A) THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON NUCLEAR
FUEL QUALITY ASSURANCE TO BE HELD IN OSLO MAY 24-28,
1976, AND (B) THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP ON
NUCLEAR FUEL PERFORMANCE AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH WAS
SCHEDULED TO BE HELD MARCH 1-4, 1976 BUT WHICH
ERDA URGED POSTPONEMENT FOR AT LEAST ONE MONTH PER
REF B. AGENCY (POLLIART, PUSHKOV AND OTHERS) BELIEVE
IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR FITTS TO BE AVAILABLE,
IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, FOR THESE TWO MEETINGS.

3. MISSION HAS DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH POLLIART,
WHO INDICATED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO RPT NO PROBLEM IN
POSTPONING WORKING GROUP PREFERABLY TO MAY 10-14, AND HE
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INQUIRED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR FITTS TO RETURN

FOR MONTH OF MAY TO CONDUCT THESE TWO MEETINGS.

4. MISOFF SYMPATHIZED WITH POLLIART'S PROBLEM AND PROMISED TO CONVEY REQUEST TO ERDA/ORNL. IN ADDITION, MISSION SUGGESTED THAT FITTS COULD BE REPLACED QUICKLY IF AGENCY WERE TO APPOINT ROBERT HORNE ASAP FOR EXISTING P-4 VACANCY (SEE REF A) AND PICK UP SOVIET CANDIDATE MENTIONED REF A LATER FOLLOWING ADVERTISEMENT FOR FITTS' POSITION. THIS SUGGESTION SEEMED VERY ATTRACTIVE TO POLLIART AND HE SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS IT WITH DDG ZHELUDEV FOLLOWING HIS RETURN TO VIENNA NEXT WEEK.

5. MISSION ASSUMES AGENCY WOULD COVER TRAVEL AND PER DIEM FOR FITTS' RETURN TO VIENNA AND TRIP TO OSLO. WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE SOONEST WHETHER ERDA/ORNL WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO RELEASING HIM FOR MONTH OF MAY, AS SUGGESTED BY POLLIART. TAPE

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